

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OES-06 IO-13 HEW-04 /088 W

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R 281246Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8650

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, PINS, IN

SUBJ: FAMILY PLANNING VIOLENCE NEAR DELHI

1. THREE POLICE INCLUDING THE SUBINSPECTOR IN CHARGE OF THE POLICE STATION IN A HARYANA VILLAGE ADJOINING THE LARGE SUBURBAN DELHI FARIDABAD INDUSTRIAL AREA WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED, ALONG WITH A LOCAL MAN, IN VIOLENCE PRECIPITATED BY FAMILY PLANNING AND STERILIZATION ACTIVITIES ON EVENING OF SEPT 27. FIVE MORE POLICE ARE REPORTEDLY IN HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF BEATINGS AND STONINGS BY MOB OF 1500-2000 RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE. INCIDENT WAS REPORTEDLY CAUSED BY MOVEMENT OF SQUAD OF 30-40 POLICE INTO THE VILLAGE LATE IN THE EVENING TO COLLECT CANDIDATES FOR STERILIZATION. SIMILAR INCIDENT IN NEARBY VILLAGE SEPT 25 HAD RESULTED IN MUCH SMALLER GROUP OF POLICE TAKING FLIGHT WHEN THEY WERE ATTACKED BY VILLAGERS. ARES, JUST OFF MAIN DELHI-AGRA ROAD, IS CURRENTLY CORDONED OFF BY DOZENS OF CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE AND 24 HOUR CURFEW IS IN FORCE. VIRTUALLY ALL MALE VILLAGERS, SQUATTERS FROM EASTERN UP AND BIHAR (MOSTLY LOW CASTE HINDU) WHO DO UNSKILLED LABOR IN FARIDABAD, HAVE FLED LEAVING FAMILIES BEHIND.

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2. PERSONS IN THE AREA QUESTIONED BY EMBASSY FSLA (WHO

SAW POLICE CORDONS AND CLUSTERS OF ONLOOKERS) WHO PASSED BY SAID THAT SINCE BEGINNING OF DUSSERA HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES LAST WEEK THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS FOR STERILIZATION HAD FALLEN OFF SHARPLY. SINCE OFFICIAL FP MOTIVATORS RECEIVE RS 100 FOR EACH PERSON THEY PERSUADE TO BE STERILIZED, THEY ATTEMPTED USE POLICE PRESSURE TO RECRUIT NEW CANDIDATES. LOCAL RESIDENTS BITTERLY COMPLAINED PEOPLE WERE BEING TAKEN OFF FOR STERILIZATION REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE, NUMBER OF CHILDREN, OR EVEN MARITAL STATUS.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY IN PAST HAS HEARD NUMBER OF REPORTS OF VIOLENCE ASSOCIATED WITH FAMILY PLANNING OPERATIONS, INCLUDING TURKMAN GATE INCIDENT IN OLD DELHI LAST MAY. THIS IS FIRST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT INVOLVING DEATHS OF WHICH WE HAVE HEARD IN IMMEDIATE DELHI AREA SINCE THEN AND WHICH WE FEEL WE CAN VERIFY FROM EYE-WITNESSES. DESPITE GOVT CLAIMS OF CARE IN ENSURING THAT COMPLUSION NOT EMPLOYED AND THE PERSONS MOTIVATED FOR STERILIZATION ARE WITHIN AGE AND FAMILY GROUPS WHICH FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM SEEKS TO REACH, WE SUSPECT THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS ONE DESCRIBED ABOVE CONTINUE TO OCCUR CONSIDERABLY MORE FREQUENTLY THAN WE ARE ACTUALLY ABLE TO VERIFY. SAXBE

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